



# Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

P.O. Box 383, Dover, Delaware 19903  
<http://doverkentmpo.org>

(302) 760-2713 FAX: (302) 739-6340

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## DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETING

### MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2006

#### Public Advisory Committee Members & Alternates attending:

Dr. Daniel Houghtaling, Chair      William Saunders  
Donald Erhart      Arley Cooper, Jr.  
James Maloy (County alternate)

#### Members not attending:

Nicholas DiPasquale      Elizabeth Thompson      Richard Ornauer  
Charles Gray, Vice Chair      Prameela Kaza      Dwight Meyer  
Joanne Masten      Horace Cook

#### Non-members attending:

Erin Fasano, DelDOT      William Fasano  
Juanita Wieczoreck, MPO Staff      Kevin Hickman, MPO Staff  
Catherine Samardza, MPO Staff      Wilmer Abbott, Clayton Town Council

The meeting was held in Clayton's Town Hall. It was called to order at 7:12 PM.

1. Introduction of Members & Guests
2. Public Comments
3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda

MOTION      By Mr. Cooper to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Erhart.  
Motion carried.

4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes / December 6, 2005

MOTION      By Mr. Erhart to correct the minutes regarding his attendance and  
approve as amended. Seconded by Mr. Saunders. Motion carried.

5. PRESENTATION: Safe Routes to School Program – Erin Fasano, DelDOT  
Planning

Ms. Fasano presented a slide show detailing the history and the schools involved in the Safe Routes to School pilot project. She also distributed copies of the slide show.

She explained that the program is based on 5 "E's:"

- 1) Evaluation



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- 2) **Engineering**
- 3) **Education – health, driver safety, travel safety skills**
- 4) **Enforcement**
- 5) **Encouragement**

Benefits to the community include improved safety and air quality, and traffic reduction. Social benefits include physical activity that leads to students who are more alert in school, learn about their environment, develop a multi-modal mentality, and share quality time with the parent walking them to school.

Senate Bill 353 established the program. DelDOT has created a source book to help schools develop a plan. The program needs strong support from parents, teachers and the community, and technical assistance is required. Ms. Fasano informed the PAC that SAFETEA-LU requires a Safe Routes to School program in all states. Dr. Houghtaling asked if funding is available to the schools; Ms. Fasano reported that there is funding available for the program; some items, such as crosswalks, may be funded through the Capital Transportation Program. Mr. Cooper asked if the local police departments are involved; Ms. Fasano reported that the schools are responsible for recruiting community partners, such as police. The program is targeting Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. The program is voluntary, and varies from school to school. For example, Fairview Elementary School has no parental support for the program; rather than walking to school, the students walk “around the world” exploring the school campus. Ms. Fasano also noted that sometimes only very simple changes are needed to make walking to school more attractive and safe, such as sorting out traffic congestion at school intersections. She reported that all four pilot schools redirected traffic as part of the SRTS program. It was suggested that Ms. Wieczoreck ask someone from Fairview School to attend a future PAC meeting to discuss their particular program in detail.

## **6. ACTION ITEM: Future Planning Project Priority – J. Wieczoreck**

Ms. Wieczoreck reviewed the possible future projects. Mr. Cooper asked about a development approved by the Camden Planning Commission that would put 241 homes behind Lowes, and add 2 entrances to the two already in place. He asked if a signal was planned for the intersection at Lochmeath Way. Ms. Wieczoreck believed that a Traffic Impact Study would have been done for this development, and that DelDOT would probably be doing the road improvements. Mr. Cooper said that there was no mention of improvements at the Planning Commission meeting. Ms. Wieczoreck reminded the PAC of Kent County’s new Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance; Mr. Abbot agreed, stating that according to the PLUS review required by Municipalities that facilities must be addressed before houses are built. Ms. Wieczoreck told Mr. Cooper that she would check on the status of this development.

**MOTION** By Mr. Cooper to table any action on prioritizing future projects until the PAC can review the TIP priority process and apply it to the UPWP projects. Seconded by Mr. Erhart. Motion carried.

## **7. ACTION ITEM: Elderly Mobility Committee Plan – J. Wieczoreck**



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**There were no material questions or comments about this project.**

**MOTION      By Mr. Erhart to recommend Council approve the Elderly Mobility Committee Plan. Seconded by Mr. Cooper. Motion carried.**

- 8.      Staff Report – J. Wieczoreck**
  - 8.1      UPWP Progress & Financial Reports**
  - 8.2      Correspondence & Publications/Reports**

**Ms. Wieczoreck announced that the TAC would be considering the Congestion Management System at a future meeting, and asked if the PAC members would also like a presentation. The consensus was that the PAC would like to add this to a future agenda.**

- 9.      NEXT MEETING: April 25, 2006 – Location TBA**

**The meeting was informally adjourned at 8:30 PM.**